



Media Alert

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4th of July and Firework Safety Joint Press Conference with Demonstrations

WHAT: HFD and Shriners Hospitals for Children-Galveston will encourage citizens to have a safe 4th of July weekend, by reminding citizens that fireworks are not only are illegal in the City and parts of the county, but also are very dangerous.

WHEN: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 at 9 a.m.

WHERE: HFD Training Academy, 8030 Braniff (behind administrative buildings near training area)

DETAILS: The Houston Fire Department and Shriners Hospitals want to ensure everyone has a good 4th of July weekend and not a tragic one. Citizens will be reminded that is illegal to discharge fireworks or to have fireworks in your possession in the City of Houston and that Harris County residents should also be aware that HFD will be enforcing the fireworks ban in the Limited Purpose Annexation areas.

While the majority of fires that kill or injure children are residential fires at 85 percent, fireworks-related injuries sent more than 3,800 children to emergency rooms in a year. Mr. Gene McGowen RN, from Shriners will discuss general medical treatment of burns, especially those caused by fireworks, and how parents should know whether the burns require professional medical care.

With most people spending at least some part of the July 4th weekend outdoors, HFD EMS Assistant Medical Director Keith Gates also will to remind people to be vigilant by drinking plenty of water and electrolyte-replacement beverages and watch out and be aware of the signs of a heat-related illness, such as heat exhaustion and heat stroke which can be deadly if not treated immediately.

Demonstrations will follow the speakers' remarks.

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